

Human Resources Office Executive Office

The Human Resources Office worked to improve employee morale and satisfaction during the year through various opportunities. Socials held throughout the year, in addition to the annual employee picnic and holiday luncheon, were all well attended. The employees of several departments were rewarded with fun mementos of their employment as recognition for their efforts and hard work. The annual Retiree Reception continues to be well attended and appreciated by the honorees. These forms of recognition and interaction are part of what allows the Town to retain our status as a distinctive employer.

Once again, a great deal of time was devoted to training during the past year. A few of the relevant training topics included Sexual Harassment for New Hires, Unlawful Harassment Refresher, Customer Service Through Effective Communication, and Public Speaking. Additional training was provided through a variety of classes offered under the B.E.S.T. Program, including supervisory certificate program courses and computer technology classes that were offered through New River Community College.

Employees continue to enjoy a generous benefit package that is crucial in the recruitment and retention of Town employees. Both medical and dental insure were reviewed during the year, with a change in the medical carrier for the new fiscal year. Coverage continues to be comprehensive and financially feasible for employees and retirees. An updated benefit brochure was prepared for the new year to highlight these benefits and communicate their value to prospective employees.

Employees continue to support many community activities sponsored by the Employee Advisory Team and the Town's wellness team, Be TUFF. These activities included blood drives for the American Red Cross, a nonperishable food drive to benefit The Haven, and Salvation Army's Back to School - Fill A Bookbag program. During the winter holidays, Town employees identified and provided gifts for children of employees who were in need of assistance during the holiday season. Town employees were eager to support the community of Blacksburg.